

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

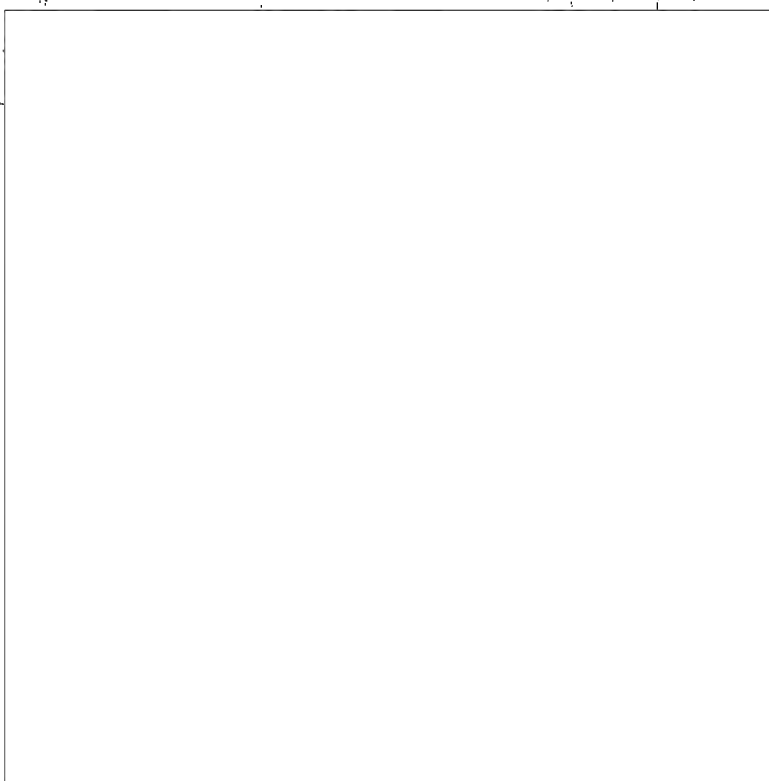
**ISSUED BY THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY**

16 JANUARY 1963

~~TOP SECRET~~

1. Cuba

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d. The Cuban press reports the government will soon permit the departure of asylees crowding a number of diplomatic missions in Havana.

e. In the view of many Latin American governments, the joint US-Soviet letter to the UN Secretary General has had the effect of turning the Cuban problem back from the UN to the OAS.

f. Most approve this and some are considering various courses of action to propose in the OAS. The consensus is that the most pressing issues are Cuba's continued potential for subversion in the hemisphere and the continued presence on Cuban soil of Soviet troops.

2. East Germany -
Berlin

a. Khrushchev has just delivered a two-and-a-half-hour speech to the East German plenum. We do not yet have the full text, but so far he has said nothing extraordinary.

b. Interestingly enough, he tied Ulbricht's wall to the peace treaty issue, saying, in effect, now that East Germany has the full sovereign right to protect its borders, the need for a peace treaty is somewhat less acute than it was. He added, however, that until a peace treaty is signed, it will be difficult to expect progress with disarmament.

c. Ulbricht's speech at the plenum yesterday was more reasonable than usual on international issues and more realistic on domestic matters, but signaled no significant departures in policy. He was obviously aware he would be upstaged by Khrushchev.

3. Congo

a. The UN is still awaiting word from Tshombé that the way is clear for its forces to move into Kolwezi.

b. He is stalling, possibly in the hope of getting Adoula to expand his amnesty offer to include mercenaries. Adoula has told us he will not do this.

c. UN civil administrator in Katanga, Mathu, is exhausted and has had to be hospitalized. His absence has left an administrative vacuum in Katanga which, if not filled promptly, could become serious.

4. Togo

a. Grunitsky has taken over as head of what coup leaders describe as a provisional government. They say elections will be held in four to six weeks. Meatchi is foreign minister.

[REDACTED] both Grunitsky and Meatchi had hesitated to return to Togo, fearing they might get the same treatment as Olympio.

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c. Both are weak and as northerners and conservatives are likely to have trouble controlling extremists in the south.

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d. Both Ghana and Dahomey are likely to keep hands off until they see how the new regime makes out.

5. UK-China

a. Having previously contracted for six new Viscount aircraft for delivery this year, Peiping is now dickering with BOAC for some 14 surplus Bristol Britannia 102s (4-engine turbo-prop airliners).

b. Many of Peiping's IL-14s are worn out and there is no evidence they are being replaced by other Soviet aircraft.

6. Arab States

a. Having weathered the effects of the Yemeni crisis, the regimes of Jordan, Syria and Iraq are now plagued with serious domestic troubles and we would not be surprised to see the lid blow in any one of these countries.

b. Disaster looms in Jordan in consequence of a year-long drought which has continued through the usually rainy month of December. Animals are dying or developing diseases out of malnutrition and the need for feed grains is acute and immediate. Ambassador Macomber asks urgently for 25,000 tons of any available feed grains, diverted if necessary or possible from shipments already underway elsewhere, in view of our shipping strike.

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c. Pro-Nasir student rioting continues in several towns in Syria. Security forces are on full alert and borders are sealed. So far as we know, conservative army elements which tried to pull off a coup this weekend, are still at large and may try again.

d. In Iraq, the countrywide student strike which began toward the end of last month continues, with considerable violence and over a thousand arrests so far. The strikes are generating large, menacing crowds which attest to a more intense popular hostility than ever toward the Qasim regime.

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- C. West Germany-NATO Under Secretary Ball succeeded Monday in persuading Adenauer that fears which he entertained regarding Germany's place in a multilateral force were groundless. Dowling feels that the Chancellor's new enthusiasm for the project will serve him well during his trip to Paris next week and will endure despite De Gaulle's negative attitude.